

Expand Use of Renewable Thermal Energy & Modernize the Power Grid

The GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee identified 2 supplemental strategies for Energy Generation and Distribution. The first is designed to expand the reach of renewable energy programs from electricity to the heating and cooling of buildings. This supplemental strategy involves incentivizing heating and cooling by sunlight, biomass, biofuels, biogas and heat pumps. The Department of Energy Resources (DOER) is implementing this strategy through the Commonwealth Accelerated Renewable Thermal Strategy. The second supplemental strategy is to transform the power grid to accommodate high penetration of distributed and variable generation, storage, electric vehicles; manage peaks; and reduce line losses. This strategy ties into the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) docket on grid modernization.